

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 043358
ORIGIN EUR-12

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R 180156Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB GER
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NATO, AWACS

SUBJECT:POSSIBLE SWEDISH INTEREST IN AWACS BRIEFING

REF: USDAO STOCKHOLM 150111Z FEB 78 (NOTAL)

1. DURING A RECENT VISIT TO THE US AS A GUEST OF THE
US AIR FORCE, SWEDISH MAJOR GENERAL STAHL, CHIEF ARMY
MATERIEL DEPARTMENT, DEFENSE MATERIEL ADMINISTRATION,
TOURED TINKER AFB WHICH IS BASE FOR THE 552 WING, THE
FIRST OPERATIONAL US NATIONAL AWACS UNIT. HE WAS
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PAGE 02 STATE 043358

EXTREMELY IMPRESSED WITH UNIQUE AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING
CAPABILITIES OF THE BOEING E-3A AWACS AND HAS NOW ASKED
DAO STOCKHOLM IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR A BRIEFING ON
THE OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES OF THE SYSTEM TO BE DELIVERED
IN STOCKHOLM.

2. WE SEE NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO PROVIDING AN

AWACS BRIEFING TO THE SWEDES. HOWEVER, IN LIGHT OF FACT THAT AWACS IS INEVITABLY VIEWED IN EUROPE FROM NATO PERSPECTIVE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE USNATO VIEWS WHETHER ALLIES WOULD HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO OUR PROVIDING A BRIEFING TO SWEDES WHICH WOULD PROBABLY BE MOST EFFECTIVE IF IT DREW ON RECENT AWACS DEMONSTRATION IN THE FRG.

3. FOR AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM: FYI, USAF HAS PREPARED A NATO AWACS BRIEFING DRAWING ON RECENT AWACS DEMONSTRATION IN THE FRG. THIS BRIEFING WILL BE DELIVERED IN CERTAIN NATO CAPITALS IN THE NEAR FUTURE (OSLO, COPENHAGEN, BRUSSELS, THE HAGUE, ANKARA, REYKJAVIK, PROBABLY OTTAWA). BRIEFING CONCENTRATES ON AWACS OPERATIONS, AND DOES NOT ENTER INTO DISCUSSION OF ONGOING NATO AWACS NEGOTIATIONS. BRIEFING COULD BE ADJUSTED TO SOME EXTENT FOR SWEDES, ALTHOUGH INFO DEvised FROM FRG DEMONSTRATION WOULD BE PERTINENT. USAF COULD PROVIDE BRIEFING TO SWEDES IN MID-MARCH OR THEREAFTER.

4. REQUEST EMBASSY VIEWS AS TO WHAT EXTENT, ASSUMING WE PROCEED WITH BRIEFING, SWEDES WOULD PREFER EXERCISE TO BE KEPT US-SWEDEN ONLY.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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